THOMPSON'S ISLAND

BEACON

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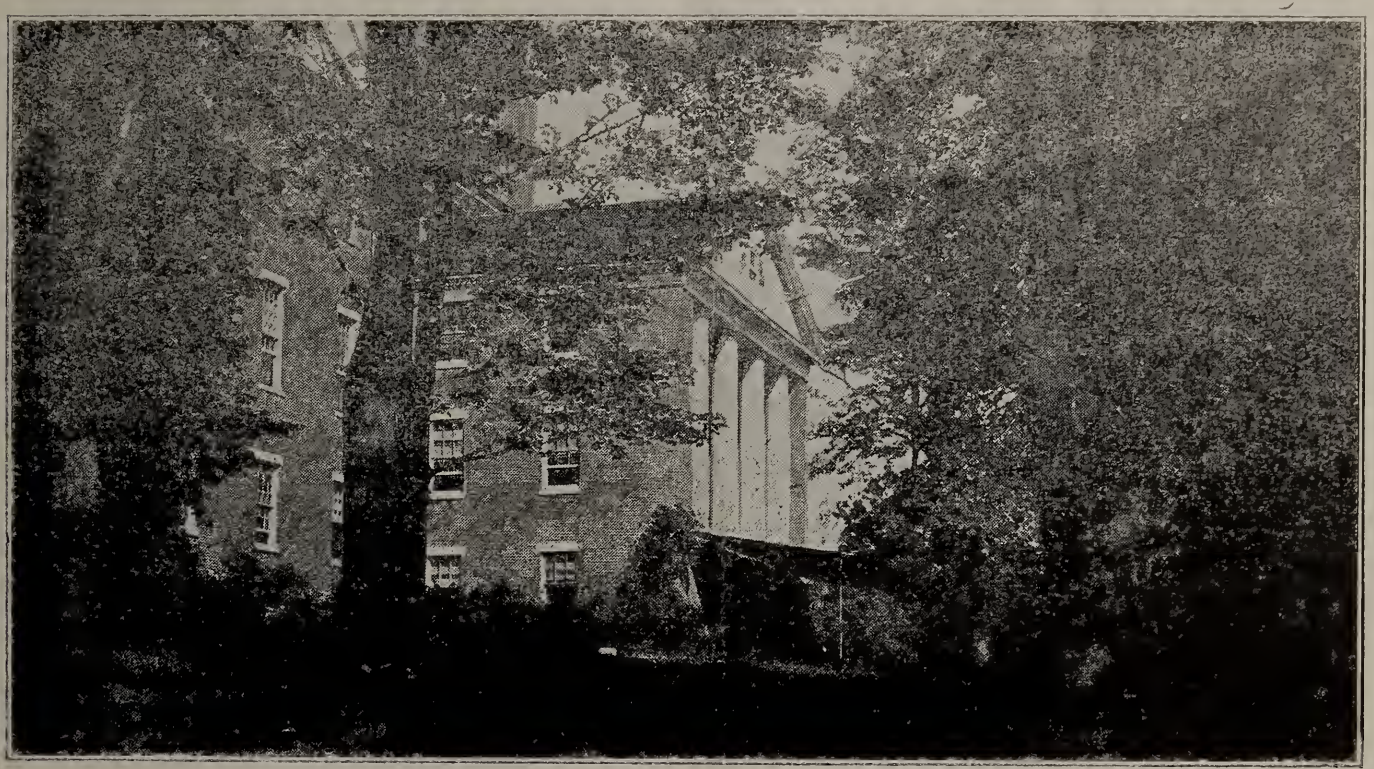

The Main Building

Hallowe'en

Everyone at the School had a fine time on Hallowe'en, October 31, when the time-honored event was celebrated by a party in the gymnasium. The instructors were organized in committees and each part of the evening's observance was most successful.

First on the program was a buffet supper of sandwiches, doughnuts, pie, cider, apples and other good things to eat served in a holiday manner. After supper the hall was cleared and made ready for a game and stunt period.

The games and stunts were: darts, donkey's tail, punch board, flying doughnuts, guessing contests and other amusing Hallowe'en favorites. The most popular pastime, probably, was Ye Hall of Horrors and a trip through this ghastly area will not be forgotten soon.

The Hallowe'en party was closed by

Welcome, Stranger

I was born on October 17, 1947
And I don't do much but doze!
I weighed just 7 lb. 11 oz.
That's without my clothes!
My parents named me Karen Vanderbilt Meacham
Without asking my advice!
And I think they're going to keep me
For they think I'm pretty nice!

Congratulations aplenty are flowing into the home of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Meacham, Jr. in Amsterdam, N. Y. The biography above, brief and unique to be sure, is the answer!

Our library has been enriched by the gift of Volumes 1 and 2 of the Associated Press News Annual which were sent us recently by William Alcott, '84. These books cover the day by day happenings of every significant event of news interest throughout the world during the years of 1945 and 1946. A perusal of the books shows that they make a full picture of what has happened around the globe and reach beyond the scope of the regular reference work. Our many thanks to Mr. Alcott for his gift.

Calendar 90 Years ago September 1857

As kept by the Superintendent

1. The day for my monthly report. I sent it to the city by one of the boys—feeling too busy to go myself. I have been engaged on the marsh.

2. I wr ught on marsh in forenoon and in afternoon visited "Kane's Arctic Panorama" on exhibition at the Melodeon. A description of the voyage was given by Mr. William Morton, the discoverer of the open sea.

8. Self went to the city with boat. Got bed-ticking, mittens, plough, meal, etc.

9. Robard (colored) returned to his mother.

21. Seven men came this morning to paint the house. The sloop "River Queen" came with 38 tons of coal and 8 cords of wood.

22. Another load of coal and wood by the "River Queen" making in all 55 tons coal and 12 cords of wood

A Great Catch

In our intra-mural league we have been having good games every week. A recent game was very important for Notre Dame was playing Navy and the team which won would probably win the championship. Malcolm Wiley led his Notre Dame team to a touchdown in the first half but it was not easy and his team failed to get the point after the score. In the second half Wayne Suitor and the Navy team really fought and scored a touchdown and also the conversion point. So Navy led 7 –6. It seemed that this would be the final score but Notre Dame got possession of the ball with the end of the game but a few minutes away. The team tried desperately to score and finally Captain Wiley threw a pass. While the ball was in mid-air the horn blew meaning that time was up. But the play counts if completed and Bob Carpenter leaped high in the air and caught the pass, landing in the end zone for a touchdown, the game and, as it proved, the championship. It was surely a thriller.

Lewis A. Hester

Sunday

On Sunday we have two religious services, the first in the morning which is Sunday School and the second, a formal church service, in the evening. During the rest of the day we play games, read, go on beachwalks, write letters, work on collections or do any number of other things.

Robert V. Atkins

Additional Alumni Notes

WILLARD G. SCHROEDER, '26, writes from Kodiak, Alaska. He had just received the card informing him of the Annual Dinner and notes that his schoolmates Ivers Winmill and Samuel Whitehead are helping to run the party. He can't attend, but hopes to be here for the 1947 Field Day.

He has been in the Army for fifteen years and expects to be in Alaska until 1948 when he hopes to be transferred to Panama. He is a specialist in telephone work.

Kodiak, an island, is the oldest white settlement in Alaska and is 150 miles long. The established naval base there and the town of Kodiak compose the settlements of any size. Kodiak has a population of 1000, mostly native Aleutians. It is a typical frontier town. The island has plenty of wild life with bear in abundance.

EDWARD E. ANDREW, '35 is fast earning a name for himself in the musical world and is a member of several musical organizations. His home address is 35 Mt. Vernon Ave., Melrose 76, Mass.

HENRY A. SCHRAMM, '29, writes that he has been interested in the progress of the football team and hopes to have a free Saturday that he can watch the team play. He lives at 2 Whitcomb Terrace, So. Weymouth, Mass.

DAVID E. LONG, '22, of the Prufcoat Sales Company, a commission house at 202-07 104th;, Hollis 7, N. Y. writes that he doubts that he can get away to attend the Annual Dinner. He sends best wishes to everyone though. He anticipates visiting us during the next summer season and is ever-intersted in F. T. S. and all its activities.

FRANKLIN M. PIERCE, '35, sends regrets at being unable to attend our Annual Dinner. He plays in a dance orchestra on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights. He is also beginning his twelfth season as a member of the Melrose Orchestral,, a symphonic group of which we have had numerous excellent notices. Surely he has made music an avocation, as well as a hobby. His address is 56 Holton St., West Medford. Mass.

WILLIAM C. BURNS, '37 is a busy graduate these days. He purchased a farm near Boston and has been busy making improvements as he wants a top-notch place. His family of four takes up about all of his attention just now and he has not had time to visit us lately. He writes that his farm makes an ideal home for his family and the commuting distance to his daily work is not too great. We wish him continued success!

RAYMOND BECK, JR., 36, writes an interesting letter commenting on many things in general and noting that he has been interested in recent press clippings regarding the school. He hopes to pay us a visit soon. His home address is 2 Moseley St., Dorchester 25, Mass.

We note with pleasure that KENNETH E. KEARNS, '24, is Secretary of the State of New Hampshire Athletic Commission. For year he has been actively interested in both amateur and professional athletics of all kinds.

FRANK L. WASHBURN, '83, and Mrs. Washburn are at their winter home, 248 8th Ave., North, St. Petersburg, Fla. We hope that they enjoy a warm, pleasant winter with all the pleasures of Florida that they have experienced in the past.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by
THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL
Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF EXCELLENT CHARACTER SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS, TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

BURLEIGH M. PRATT - - - - - - *Editor*

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Recently in an algebra course a boy was asked how he would do a certain example. He replied that by algebra he would do it one way and by arithmetic he would do it differently. Both methods were quickly demonstrated and it was proven that one method was wrong.

This brings to mind that a continuous stream of various types of problems confront all of us throughout our lifetime. Sometimes our problems become so difficult, complex and abundant that our minds become confused aud for the moment at least we know not whence to turn.

We are sure to have less trouble, less confusing problems, and much greater happiness if we can, early in life, learn and practice right living. The right way to do things, basic Christian living, cheerfulness, ways of service, kindly attitude, these are some of the things which should become a part of every person. The complete education of a child includes these thoroughly important elements.

It is as easy to do a problem the right way as the wrong way if one knows the right way. The results are so much more satisfying when we know and do the right way.

Topics in Brief

Our football season has attracted considerable attention because of the good work of the varsity and the fact that every boy in school is on an organized team and each of the five elevens plays one game weekly for nine weeks. The first game on the schedule for the varsity was with the Milton H.S. freshmen which our boys won

19–7, on September 27. The Crosby Intra-Mural league got underway on September 20 and each of the four teams will play a game every week.

Our religious services this year are being conducted by Mr. David Page, a graduate student at Gordon College. Sunday School is held in the morning while a more formal church service is conducted Sunday evening. Mr. Page is a graduate of Wheaton College and we look forward to a rich program of religious work under his direction.

The farm's big job lately has been the harvesting of silage corn and we have harvested a bumper crop of this important cattle feed. The corn is cut and hauled to the silo where it is cut into small pieces and blown into the silo by the ensilage cutter. The silo is completely filled and the balance of the crop is being fed day by day, as needed.

Weekly assembly programs were begun this month and these are held each Monday evening. Each of the academic classes takes its turn in preparing and presenting a short entertainment. These vary in make-up, some being based on educational matter currently being studied in class while others are purely of an entertainment nature. The school band has an important part in each assembly as it plays selections prepared during the preceding week. Announcements are made by the headmaster and there is singing of old familiar melodies.

The academic year began on September 9 with 83 boys. There are three juniors, ten sophomores, fifteen freshmen, twenty-eight eighth graders, eighteen seventh graders and nine sixth graders.

Miss Jean F. Baird is teaching the sixth and seventh grades and has had a long experience in the teaching profession. We are fortunate in having return to us Dr. John B. Cook, principal, and Mr. Charles A. Tracy, who jointly teach the eighth grade and high school classes. The advanced algebra work for the junior class is being taught by Mr. Meacham.

New students this year are:
Robert G. Alexander
Robert V. Atkins
William H. Atkins
Walter E. Callaway
Edward J. Collins, Jr.
Richard L. Dyer
Nathaniel W. Eaton
James P. Hebert
Richard F. Hebert
Wayne W. Henry
Donald W. Heslinga
Lewis A. Hester
William F. James
Richard S. Larsen
Eldón J. Lundin
John R. Mason
Joseph B. Mason
Robert K. McCann
Rodger D. Mildram
Donald R. Morrell
John P. Richardson
Donald E. Richardson
Leonard C. Souza
Edward H. Strom
David P. Tangen
George F. Taylor
Dexter E. Tufts

Mr. Raymond Buker preached at the School on October 19. Mr. Buker, like his coach, Rev. Gilbert Dodds, is a track man and has won considerable success in the athletic field. We shall watch with interest the reports of his participation in the winter track meets.

We shall also be watching for further athletic triumphs by our friend, the Rev. Gilbert Dodds.

an entertainment made up of short playlets and sketches in wnich many of the boys took part. The program for this very enjoyable hour was:

PROGRAM

Let's All Sing
Lawrence F. Finn

Playlet: A Horrible Day
John P. Richardson, Donald Heslinga
Richard S. Larsen

Story: The Fire
David P. Tangen

Stunt: The Ghost Play
Richard F. Hebert, Joseph B. Mason,
Donald E. Richardson, George F. Taylor
Dexter E. Tufts

Scotch Songs
Harold D. Lowery,Jr., Richard McPhee,
Paul W. Horton, Burleigh M. Pratt

Playlet: The Lost Umbrella
Robert V. Atkins, Eldon J. Lundin,
James P. Hebert, Lewis A. Hester

Sketch: Hot News
Joseph B. Mason, William F. James,
Nathaniel W. Eaton, Donald R. Morrell

Play: The First Romance
Robert E. Carpenter, Wayne W. Henry,
Lawrence J. McManus

Stunt: Stagefright
Eldon J. Lundin

Sketch: The Noisy Ones
George F. Taylor, Donald S. Duquet,
Robert G. Alexander, Walter C. Roberts

Playlet: An F.T.S. Boy Plays Cards
George F. Taylor, Thurmond Hood

Stunt: An Operation
William H. Atkins, Robert V. Atkins,
Jon Hines, Edward J. Collins, Jr.

Finale
Burleigh M. Pratt

A Reprint

The following article was written by Ernest Dalton of the Boston "Globe" and appeared on the sport pages of that paper on Oct. 24.

Followers of the Class D championship chase may have been wondering about The Farm and Trades School. The football team is in a tie for third place, unbeaten–untied.

The Farm and Trades School first opened its doors in Boston in 1814 and now is located on Thompson's Island in Boston Harbor, where it moved from the mainland in 1833.

So much for the locale. What do they do at Farm and Trades? Well, they do a lot of things, too many to list here. But for example, on the Farm end, the boys grow fruit and vegetables, raise cows, milk them, pasteurize their own milk. On the Trades end, they learn among other things woodworking, and how to handle most any kind of a tool.

How big a school? This year, the school has a boys' student body of 80, of whom 20 are on the varsity football squad. As the boys advance in class they transfer to a high school, so there never is a senior on the varsity, seldom a junior.

This year though is an exception for there are three juniors on the varsity. The rest are eight sophomores, seven freshmen, and two eighth graders. The other boys, 60, play for one of the four intramural teams, and the policy of the football program is to see that each boy plays in at least one game a week.

Realizing their limitations, in regard to age, experience and number, Farm and Trades plays strictly in its own class. They play a wise mixture of regular small high school and junior varsity teams. And this year, with Ray Thomas again at the coaching helm, it has nothing but wins, four in a row.

Because of lack of depth, FTS goes in

for deception, sure handed tackling and crisp blocking. Number one man in the backfield so far has been Steve Zevitas, captain and left half back. Harry Lowery, the other halfback, has been consistently good all season. Jack Higgins, quarterback, and Dick McPhee, fullback, have held up their ends in fine fashion.

Burleigh Pratt, at end, has stood out in the line, while Paul Horton, at center, has been a giant on defense. Others on the starting line are Ralph Gale and Jim Angelos, tackles; Howard Jennison and Bill Warfield, guards; and Bob Hatch, end.

Leading substitutes are Bob Lucien, Walter Roberts, Vaughn Best, Jim Ward, Bob Davenport, Ramsey Porter, Ernie Parsons, Ken Duquet, and Bob Fawcett.

Sunday School

Every Sunday morning, at ten o'clock, we have Sunday School. We assemble in the Chapel and when all the boys are present the teachers come in. First we sing a few hymns and have a reading from the Bible. Then Mr. Page speaks to us for a little while and we have a memory verse to learn. At half past ten the boys go with the teachers to rooms where the classes are held. At eleven o'clock the bell rings and the classes are dismissed then or soon after.

Jon Hines

A Spelldown

Last week in Assembly the eighth grade, division A, held a spelldown to determine which was the better of two teams as far as correct spelling was concerned. David W. Simmons and Robert K. McCann were captains and had their teams picked about two weeks before the spelldown was held.

The teams lined up in front of the assembly hall and Edward R. McGough acted as chairman. The boys were asked in turn to spell. If a failure was met the same word was asked of a boy on the other team. If it was then spelled properly his team had a choice of taking a player from the other team.

The spelldown continued until each boy had several chances to prove his ability. At the conclusion it was easily seen that the team captained by David Simmons had the better of the match.

Modern Transportation

I suppose that when this School first started transportation was by rowboat or sailboat. Nowadays it is much different. I have been here only a short time but have seen visitors arrive in seaplanes, speedboats, amphibious ducks, sailboats, motor boats and even in an L. C. P. which looks like a duck but is much larger. What next? Maybe we'll have visitors arrive in a submarine.

Walter E. Callaway

Poultry Work

I like poultry work better than any other work except for dormitory. I'm more used to doing dormitory work. The poultry work is interesting though. Every morning after breakfast I fill the water cans for the hens, feed mash to them and gather the eggs. I take the eggs to the egg room.

Richard S. Larsen

Dining Room Work

Every morning I have a job to do in the dining room. I take the silverware first from my tables and then I gather the dishes. Then I wash the tables and sweep under them. The dishes for the next meal are all ready for me and I set all the tables. Then my dining room work is finished.

John P. Richardson

The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

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Three Former F. T. S. Musicians

By Henry Woelber

Note: Mr. Henry Woelber, biographer of musicians, writes: "I am really surprised at the interest shown in my article about Harry E. Brenton which was printed in the June BEACON. Here are brief accounts of three other F. T. S. musicians who received more than local fame. I knew them well, and kept notes of them in my diaries."

We thank Mr. Woelber for preparing these articles. They are interesting and authentic.

David H. Moore, Class of 1881, was a trombonist and a member of the first Boston Symphony Orchestra, playing in that great orchestra under Henshell and Gericke through the years 1881–1886. He was also a member of the faculty of the New England Conservatory of Music. He played every conceivable kind of musical engagement and under Zerrahn, Rietzel and Mollenhauer was a member of the old Germanias. This organization later became the touring Boston Festival Orchestra and Band. Mr. Moore toured with this group from 1889 to 1902 inclusive. Returning to Boston, he was in the orchestra which opened the Colonial Theatre with the play "Ben Hur" starring Dustin and William Farnum. He died March 3, 1926 after a half century of musical achievement.

Bertrand B. Keyes, Class of 1881, for many years was cornet soloist with the famous Salem Cornet Band. While with this band he played many big exposition dates, North, South, East and West. In 1896 he was with the band when it went to England with the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company. He was the arranger of "The Passing of John Brown", a novelty which he did for the F.T.S. Band and which is as interesting now as the day he put the notes on paper. His musicianship was always tasty and scholarly and like all other Farm School boys, he was a gentleman and a man one liked to meet. He died on Oct. 30, 1935.

Tafley Mauch, Class of 1879, played cornet and had a magnificient drilling with Gustav Patz in Fitchburg. Patz was a Boston Symphony viola artist. In the winter of 1908-1909 Mauch played in a nine piece orchestra performing 39 concerts for the city of Boston. Louis C. Elson was lecturer with the group. Mr. Mauch earned considerable fame as a cornet soloist and his performance of Bagley's "Three Star Polka" was outstanding and noteworthy. His musical ability became recognized and he played innumerable engagements. His death on January 28, 1912 resulted in a Resolution being framed by The Farm and Trades School Alumni Association which said in part: "He attained eminent distinction in tne musical profession and in this he reflected high credit upon our School."

HAROLD K. MALMGREN, '39 was married to Miss Eileen Standing on October 18, 1947 at Las Vegas, Nevada. We extend the couple all good wishes.

Mr. Malmgren has for some time been employed in Santa Ana, California as a watchmaker. Mail addressed to the Y. M. C. A. of that city will reach him.

HARVEY H. DAVIS, '35, attends the Fisher School in Somerville and studying Business Management. He and Mrs. Davis live at 295 Commonwealth Ave., Boston and would be glad to have former F. T. S. classmates visit. He plans to attend one of the school football games before the season is completed.